

a contoured arc extending across its transverse axis between the opposed sides of said article wherein a concave, symmetrical contour is defined on the upper surface of said article and a convex, symmetrical contour is defined on the lower surface.

20. An article formed according to the method in claim 17 wherein said article includes a contoured, arcuate shape on at least one opposed side thereof and a contoured arc extending across its transverse axis between the opposed sides of said article wherein a convex, symmetrical arc is defined between said opposed sides on one surface of said article, and wherein said convex arc is significantly higher at one of said opposed sides and tapering therefrom across said transverse axis and along said longitudinal axis to a significantly lower height at the other of said opposed sides.

21. An article formed according to method as claimed in claim 17 wherein said article includes a contoured, arcuate shape on at least two opposed sides thereof and a contoured arc extending across its transverse axis between the opposed sides of said article wherein a convex, symmetrical arc is defined between said opposed sides on one surface of said article, and wherein said convex arc is significantly higher at one of said opposed sides and tapering therefrom across said transverse axis and along said longitudinal axis to a significantly lower height at the other of said opposed sides.

REMARKS

The undersigned, local counsel and applicant each appreciate the time and consideration provided by the examiner during the interview conducted on December 13, 2001.

The claims as presented reflect the discussions during the interview. Claim 1 has been amended to include the clarification in step b of abutting the honeycomb core against a mold and in

step c, securing molds to the opposed sides. New claim 17, which replaces claim 6, was discussed specifically during the interview. As noted during the interview, the elements of elements of an open mold and securing molds to the edges are not disclosed in the prior art of record.

Also discussed during the interview, support for amended claim 1 and new claim 17 may be found on page 14, lines 17-27.

The present invention involves a highly refined, multi step process that produces a complex shaped honeycomb product. The references cited do not solve the problem that the inventor has solved, nor do they produce the product that is created by the inventive method.

The prior art references cited do not teach, either alone or in combination, the elements of the claims as presented herein.

Neither Weisse (US Patent 4,923,544), Ross (US Patent 5,824,255), Reed (US Patent 5,913,766) or Gnagy (US Patent 5,119,535) teach trimming a honeycomb core, abutting a core in a mold, applying pressure to the top of a core, providing a lateral cut, including chamfers on edges or securing edge molds.

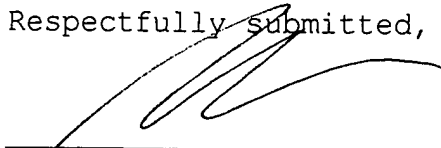
Chimiak (US Patent 5,514,017) does not teach abutting a core in a mold, applying pressure to the top of a core, providing a lateral cut, including chamfers on edges or securing edge molds.

Long (US Patent 4,013,810) does not teach a honeycomb core at all, trimming a honeycomb core, abutting a core in a mold, applying pressure to the top of a core, providing a lateral cut, including chamfers on edges or securing edge molds.

There is no suggestion or motivation to combine the cited references, and even if they are combined, the invention as claimed is not taught.

Accordingly, the clear, unambiguous and patentably distinct claims, as amended, are now in condition for allowance. Such favorable action by the examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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